Absentee Shawnee News
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THE ABSENTEE SHAWNEE NEWS

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16 pages this issue:

Governor's Report Page 2

Lt. Governor's Report Page 2

Secretary's Report Page 3

Treasurer's Report Page 4

Representatives Report Page 5

Campaign letters pages 6 & 7

Request for Absentee Ballot Page 11

Tribal Resolutions Pages 13 - 16

55TH SEMI-ANNUAL GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING IS HELD

It was nearly a standing-room only crowd at the recent General Council meeting. More chairs and benches were brought in to accommodate tribal members. The meeting was held for more than two hours and was one of the largest meeting in recent history. Many issues were discussed by the Executive Committee and their department heads. Issues that were of particular interest were gaming and land purchases. Tribal members also had an opportunity to ask questions of tribal leaders and employees.

To the right and below are some of the pictures of tribal members that attended.

THE RUN OFF ELECTION FOR GOVERNOR AND SECRETARY IS SATURDAY JUNE 18, 2005.

GOVERNOR'S REPORT

I would like to thank all of you who attended General Council. It was good to see so many tribal members are actively interested in what our Tribe is accomplishing and where we are headed. I also find it challenging to hear from those of you that have concerns regarding tribal issues or activities. Your comments often give us ideas to improve on what we are doing or striving to do. I hope all of your questions were answered to your satisfaction, however, if they weren't please feel free to call for further explanation.

The Tribe is still meeting with the City of Shawnee regarding the construction of a gaming facility on I-40. Presently, the infrastructure is the hold up. A wastewater system, water, electricity and gas supply are hurdles that we are currently having to find a solution for. Ideas are easy, making those ideas a reality is what takes time and planning. We will continue to seek avenues that will work; once we find the right avenue we will put our plan into motion.

I will be on travel status the first week of May; I plan to attend the "2005 Self-Governance Tribes Department

Governor Ken Blanchard

of Health and Human Services and Department of the Interior Spring Conference". Lately I have felt that it was necessary to stay close to the Complex to deal with matters of a local nature, however; the Self Governance conference is a conference of great importance and I have always tried to attend. The Bureau of Indian Affairs is changing so rapidly, it is imperative that we stay on top of the changes and how they are affecting the daily operations of our tribal governments.

The Secretarial Election will be held May 14, 2005. The time to register for this election has passed. Hopefully many of you have registered and will cast your vote on May 14th. The polling places will be the same as the primary and general elections; at the Tribal Police Department on the Complex or at the AST Resource Center in Little Axe. I encourage you to exercise your voting right as an Absentee-Shawnee tribal member and cast your vote on the Constitutional changes.

Regarding the General Election, for the offices of Governor and Secretary, you have until May 29, 2005 to request your absentee ballot. The General Election will be held June 18th. All absentee ballots must be received by the Election Commission before June 18, 2005. If you are unable to vote in person please return your absentee-ballots as promptly as possible, please make sure your ballot is notarized. As stated in the previous paragraph, if you prefer to vote in person, the polling places will be at the Absentee-Shawnee Tribal Police Department at the Complex or at the AST Resource Center in Little Axe. I encourage everyone one to vote.

Once again, I ask you to come by or call if you would like to visit.

Kenneth Blanchard
Governor

The Absentee Shawnee News is published monthly by the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of OK and is mailed free, one per address, to enrolled Tribal members. Additional subscriptions to non-tribal members and organizations are available for $12 annually. We invite letters to the editor, comments and submissions but reserve the right to limit printing based upon available space. Editorials and letters must be signed and include an address or phone number. (The deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month).

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ext. 146. The fax number is 405-214-4220 and e-mail address is jeffh@astribe.com

LT. GOVERNOR'S REPORT

I would like to thank all of our tribal members who attended the 55th Semi-Annual general Council. I am sorry that I was unable to attend, but from the responses I have received, it was a good meeting. It takes a tremendous effort to put together the General Council meetings and my thanks go out to all of the employees who worked so hard to pull it all together. Our General Council books were exceptional and I want to congratulate Sharon Shawnee, who oversees our new printing company, for all of her efforts.

In my last couple of articles, I have mentioned a tribute to our military veterans of Cleveland County is being built in Reeves Park in Norman, Oklahoma. It's still not too late to call in any names of residents of Cleveland County who served in the military from World War I to the present and would like to be represented in this tribute. Please call Corlyss at Ext 187 for any additional information.

For those tribal members who registered for the Secretarial Election, the voting date is May 14, 2005. **If you registered to vote by absentee ballot, your ballot must be received by mail no later than 11:00 AM on May 14, 2005.** A representative from the BIA will be at the post office to pick up absentee ballots that are received by that time.

For those who are voting in person, the polling places are the Resource Center in Little Axe and the Police Station at the Tribal Complex. The polls will

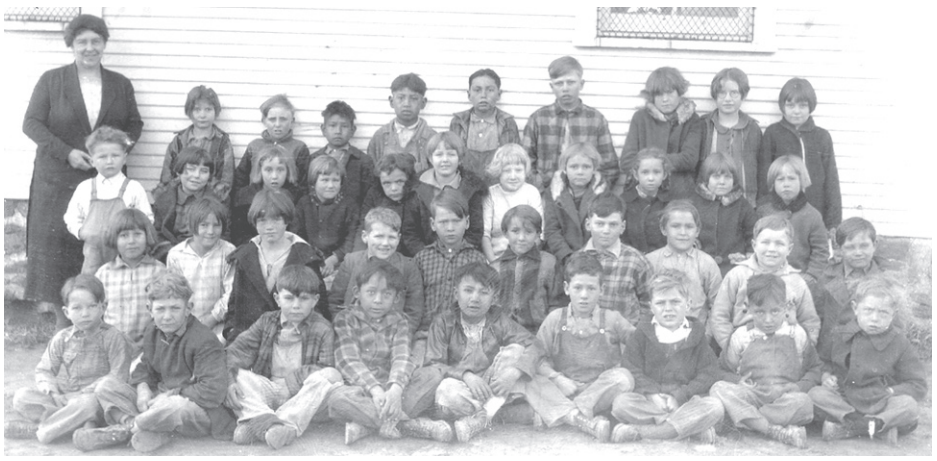
Lt. Governor Ken Daugherty

open at 8AM and close at 6 PM. If you have any questions, please call my office for further details.

If you haven't applied for the 2005 School Clothing Program, I encourage you to do so. This program is available to all eligible Absentee Shawnee Tribal Children **across the United States** from Age 0 to 12th . Age 0 to 4th grade receive $200.00 per calendar year if attending a certified program; 5th thru 8th grades receive $250.00 per calendar year; and 9th thru 12th grades receive $300.00 per calendar year. Our clothing sources are Sears, K-Mart, Wal Mart, Penney's, Target and Old Navy. If you have any questions, please contact Michelle at Ext 114.

Our deepest condolences go out to the family and friends of the following Tribal members who have passed away:

Betty Joe Miller
Lula Mae Coddington
Paul William Day
Teresa Ann Panther Bonds



If anyone can identify any of the individuals in the above photograph, please contact my office. The photo was taken at the Old Johnson School in 1924 or 1925. Any help would be appreciated. (Look for another photo in next month's paper.)

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Secretary Marian Reeves

I hope everyone had a good time at the General Council Meeting held on April 16, 2005. The Health Fair and the Program Booths were especially informative and popular they just seem to be better and better. Thank you to all the employees who worked to make this a success.

I was astounded at the disrespectful question asked by a tribal member "the elderly, we respect them, we are giving you guys over the years a budget and we want to know what you guys have done to give back to the tribe?" They don't have to give back anything to this tribe. They don't owe us anything; we owe them more than we can ever give them. They have raised their children, and a lot of them are raising their grandchildren. They worked all their lives to support their families and struggled with almost no help from the Absentee Shawnee Tribe. Now that the tribe is becoming a successful business enterprise and making money I will vote to give them anything they need. I was taught to respect my elders. I found that question very offensive and I was appalled that anyone would even ask it. The question should have been "what more can we do for our elders?" They deserve respect and what they have to give back is their experience, wisdom and cultural knowledge.

. From now on the per cap checks will be cut and distributed from the AST Finance Department. They used to be distributed from Thunderbird Casino but by distributing them from here at the complex we think it will be simpler. If you have any problems call the Finance Department.

I presented a Resolution which was passed by the Executive Committee and created a **Washer/Dryer Program for all AST members 50 years of age and older by May 1, 2005 who own their own home, have a 25 year lease or a conventional mortgage statewide.** Your old appliances must be at least 5 years old. They will be removed at the expense of the tribe and they must be turned in. **We cannot serve Absentee Housing Authority Homes unless they are paid off.** This new age requirement will also allow all AST Tribal members 50 years of age by May 1, 2005 and over to apply for the Storm Shelter and the Kitchen Appliance Program. The same requirements apply to all three programs. You must be an **AST member 50 years of age and older by May 1, 2005 who owns their own home, has a 25 year lease or a conventional mortgage statewide.** Since the beginning of these programs we have served 58 people in the Kitchen Appliance Program and 62 people in the Storm Shelter Program. If you qualify for these programs you can pick up the applications at the Secretary's Office. If you need to have an application mailed to you call my office and talk to any of my staff, and we will send it to you. You must provide a copy of your deed and your CDIB card with your application. Get your application in early because if the funding for this year is used up you will have to wait until next January when we get a new budget.

If you or anyone you know is in a domestic abuse situation there is help available. With the grant that we have we can offer help in many ways. We have a Domestic Abuse Support Group that meets on Monday nights at 5:30 in the conference room of Building #2.

I am working on a plan for creating a Children's Choir. If anyone would be interested in their children participating please call me, Donna Roberts or Kent Scott at the Tribal Complex.

Linda Penn, Regional Director, Region VI of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services visited the tribe. On April 27, 2005 we received an E-mail from her wanting more information. First Lady Laura Bush had asked that she send her the names of some effective "at risk youth programs". She stated that she was very impressed with Donna Roberts, Family Services Director and the youth programs that our tribe has, especially the "Two Stars Program" and "Camp Nikoti". A direct quote from Linda Penn was "my thanks goes all to you folks. You are the ones doing the work that actually changes people's lives. I'll look forward to sending the information about your excellent program on to Mrs. Bush. I look forward to working closely together as we all work toward more success." This is a great honor for our tribe.

This will be the last edition of the paper until after the election. If I win I will continue to work to improve the lives of our tribal members. If I don't I hope that I made at least a positive difference in the quality of life for some. I hope that somebody's life is a little better because I was here for a while. Thank you for letting me serve as your Tribal Secretary. It has been an honor.

BRUCE LONGHORN AWARD GIVEN AT NATIONAL INDIAN GAMING CONFERENCE IN SAN DIEGO

In recognition and as tribute to Absentee-Shawnee tribal member Bruce Longhorn (now deceased), the National Indian Gaming Association has established an annual award in his honor which will be presented to a deserving individual of the gaming industry each year.

At this year's NIGA Conference, Milton LaClair, member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribe and recently retired gaming commission chairman, was recognized as the recipient of the Bruce Longhorn Award for Excellence in Regulation.

The award was delivered by Sherrianne Longhorn, wife of the late Bruce Longhorn. "During his life-which was cut too short at a young age--, Bruce was a champion who supported NIGA and what we stand for," said Stevens. "He also was a staunch advocate for strong regulation by tribes."

Photo provided by Cynthia Longhorn

Present at the Bruce Longhorn Award Ceremony are standing left to right: Tracey Burris, Eastern Oklahoma Delegate, Ernie Stevens, Jr., Chairman of NIGA, Sherrianne Austin-Longhorn and Gerald Danforth. Seated are Milton LeClere, Prairie Band Potawatomi (recipient of the award) and his wife Rose.

TIGER FAMILY REUNION

May 21, 2005 at Lake Thunderbird
Little Axe area.

There is now a $3.00 per car admission fee!
Be prepared!

So bring your food, drinks, games
and pictures!

Please call 386-7124 to verify times.

TREASURER'S REPORT

In January 2005 the Tribe applied for the 2004 Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) to the Southern Plains Native American HUD office. Monies from this grant will be used to construct a new law enforcement building on the Complex. The Tribe was notified Friday that we were awarded the grant in the amount of $750,000.00.

The 2004 Tax Clinic was very successful. We had a total of 242 individuals that received their Income Taxes prepared and electronically filed by the Oklahoma Indian Legal Services (OILS) representative. Based upon the going rate of tax preparation and electronic filing for a simple return for one or two persons, this was an approximate savings of over $18,150 to those individuals. This office appreciates the commitment of OILS in their efforts to provide this much needed ***free*** service to our Tribal Members and employees. Our plans are to increase the numbers of tax sessions for year 2005 to insure everyone has to opportunity to take advantage of this service.

Tribal Members and visitors coming to the Complex can clearly see the progress being made on the AllNations Branch Bank. Plans for the Branch Bank to be open are still scheduled for July 2005

The construction plans for the Horseshoe Bend Community Center (ICDBG) Project will be complete by May 15th, 2005. There will be a Ground Breaking Ceremony for the Community Center at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 19th, 2005. Directions to the Horseshoe Bend Community Center are as follows: Go North from I-40 on Highway 18 (towards Meeker) to Garrett Lake Road, turn East on Garret Lake Road and go 4 ¼ miles, the Center is located on the North side of the road.

The Treasurer's office would like to introduce the replacement of Financial Analyst, Anna Derebery who has married and moved to North Carolina. Anna has served in this capacity for the past 5 years and has done an outstanding job for this office and will be missed by many on the Complex.

Belinda Collins joined our group on

Treasurer Russell Ellis

April 6 as Financial Analyst and Office Manager. Ms. Collins comes to us from a local bank with extensive knowledge in banking, investments and cash management. She has a Bachelors Degree in Business from St. Gregory's University, and brings 22 years of banking, auditing and human resources experience.

Ms. Collins resides in Shawnee with her husband of 23 years, Alan, and daughter, Kelsie who is her pride and joy. Her greatest enjoyment, when not working, is watching her daughter at competition dance activities or skiing Lake Eufaula.

This office is always open to anyone who wants to stop by for a visit or offer comments.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Auditors are present in the Finance building performing the regular audit of financial records for 2004. The Finance staff is working hard providing reconciliation information for them while continuing to stay on top of their daily duties. Therefore, if assistance is needed from Finance and a response is not received immediately, your patience would be appreciated.

ABSENTEE SHAWNEE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, INC. (ASEDA) REPORT

CAROL LEESE, CEO

I would like to provide the Tribal Members an update of ASEDA's progress since the last newsletter.

ASEDA's mission is very focused on creating wealth and jobs for the Tribe. This is being accomplished by creating business development in the following three areas; Government Contracting, Private Sector Business, and Community Development.

Government Contracting

- **8(a) Small Business Administration (SBA) Certification**

As you are aware, we submitted our 8(a) application in March 2005. The SBA requested clarification on a few issues related to ASEDA. We have resubmitted the requested information and expect to hear back from the SBA in May.

- **Absentee Shawnee Design Group (ASDG)**

We are forecasting continuous growth for ASDG in 2005 which will require additional space. Therefore, ASDG will be leasing space from the Tribe on Union next to All Nations Printing & Graphics starting June 1, 2005

Private Sector Businesses

- **All Nations Printing and Graphics**

For the first time in the history of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe we were able to print our General Council report "in house". You can be proud to say that our Tribe is becoming more and more self sufficient. We are in the process of absorbing all printing from the Tribe that had previously been out sourced to other local companies. Once we capture all of our "in house" business, we will work on providing printing services to other Tribes across the Nation.

- **All Nations Insurance**

We have recently started a new insurance brokerage company to help facilitate our Tribe's Life Insurance needs. Once we are comfortable servicing our Tribe's Life Insurance business, we will evaluate our other insurance coverage and possible needs. All Nations Insurance will ultimately market to other Tribes in our region; OK, NM, KS. We have a 51% ownership in All Nations Insurance. 49% is owned by Stockton & Associates located in Oklahoma City.

I am very excited about the future of our Tribe! Please do not hesitate to stop by my office and introduce yourself. Your questions and comments are very important to me and are a vital part of the success of the Tribe.

Absentee Shawnee Housing Authority
107 N Kimberly ~ Shawnee, OK 74801
Phone: 405-273-1050 ~
Fax: 405-275-0678

Available HOUSING PROGRAMS:

MUTUAL HELP / HOMEOWNERSHIP

LOW RENT

HOMEOWNER / HOMEBUYER MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

Call or come by the Housing Authority offices for an application or more information about our current programs. Priorty is given to Absentee Shawnee Tribal members.

Women: Has falling in love meant being in emotional pain sooner or later?

A free Self-Help Group is now forming for women whose relationships with men have, up to now, usually been destructive.

If you want to overcome this problem, call Marian Reeves, Donna Roberts, or Jennifer Wells, at (405) 275-4030, for information and location of meeting

REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

I hope that this report finds all the members in good health. I want to report on the General Council meeting held on April 16 of this year. The turnout was excellent for this meeting and I enjoyed all the members that attended.

We discussed several topics from health care to gaming. We were advised by the Treasurer that a per cap was going to be paid once again for those members from the age 22 to 59. This payment should be going out within the last two weeks before the election held on June 18 this year. Again we are not going to pay the 0 to 21 for lack of sending the allocation plan back to the B.I.A. to approve the payment of this age group. I still believe that we cannot continue to leave this important age group out of the payment process. It is my belief that if a members enters the Armed Services and is sent overseas to fight for our freedom, then we should by all means pay these members if they are willing to die for us. Also, by leaving out the 0 to 18 years old is improper as what do these children have to do to be recognized by this Committee in order for them to share in the payment process. We are elected to represent all members of the Tribe regardless of the age and if we continue we will be pitting one age group against another and that will not be right.

On another age related area that I have concerns about is the new programs introduced by Marian Reeves this past Executive Committee meeting. This program expanded the Cellar, Stove and Refrigerator program to now include washers and dryers. This new additional program for washers and dryers was funded for $ 125,000.00. But it limits the age group to be served to 50 years of age and over. You still have to own or be paying on the home you are now living in and reside in the State of Oklahoma. This creates a hardship on those over 50, because some of these members **are** renting and they have the same needs as those that are buying their homes, they are now being left out. With this new program I feel that we have left out the working members those under 50 of our Tribe that is currently raising a family. They to need these appliances as the elderly need. We need to do a better job in assessing and by surveying the needs of our members in the future that will include all members regardless of their age and where they live.

<u>I support the payments for all our members now and will continue in the future for the members.</u>

Representative Larry Nuckolls

As a Tribal leader I have stated before we need to now make payments to all members of the Tribe regardless of age and where they live. For those children under the age of 18, we have to maintain a trust fund for them that will insure they to can be paid also when attaining the age of 18.

Our members future is dependent on us as Tribal leaders meeting their needs. We will need to do more research when addressing and assessing the needs of our members so no age group is left out ever again.

If you have any questions feel free to call or come by my Office in the future.

ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA OFFICE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

MAY 2005

Two USEPA Officials came to Shawnee to meet with the Office of Environmental Protection staff. Mr. Stan Hitt, EPA Region 6 Coordinator - Brownfields Program and Ms. Diana Hinds, Brownfields Program Officer, visited the OEP offices on Tuesday, April 19th. As one of only two Tribes in Oklahoma to have the Brownfields Response Program and as the only Tribe in Region 6 to receive a Brownfields Competitive Assessment Grant, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe's Office of Environmental was one of three visits made in Oklahoma by these officials. The other visits were with the State of Oklahoma DEQ and the Cherokee Nation (ITEC) each of which also operates a Brownfields Response Program under USEPA funding. While visiting, the EPA personnel were given a tour of OEP's new offices, the Brownfields sites and the Tribal Complex. Both Mr. Hitt and Ms. Hinds seemed to be pleased with the progress that has been made by OEP as it is still a relatively new environmental program since it was first organized in October of 2002.

The Office of Environmental Protection has relocated to new offices located at the corner of Benson Park Road and Highway 177. This will allow the staff greater access to the old Lillard Pipe Supply property which is the focus for a $200,000 USEPA Brownfields Assessment Grant. The AST were only one of a very few Tribes in the entire nation to be awarded this funding. Three issues made the property important to the Tribe; its location is extremely close to 33 acres of Tribal Trust lands, its prime location for economic development, and its proximity to both the Tecumseh Water Supply Lake and the North Canadian River.

The desolate appearance of the site, regardless of its environmental condition, has the potential to impact any activities on the Trust Lands, making the area appear unattractive and less desirable for development. On the adjacent 20 acres is a large number of abandoned tanks, presumably from the oil field industry. These tanks will be cataloged and the site ultimately cleaned up as well. The environmental conditions of the properties are being explored in partnership with the United States Geological Survey. The groundwater will be tested to determine if heavy metals already indicated to be on site have reached the water table. In an innovative study, the USGS will also be simultaneously testing surface plants to determine if a correlation can be found between groundwater levels, soil levels and plant absorption of the metals. If a correlation is found, the evaluation of plants instead of having to drill to test groundwater may prove to be a much less invasive, less expensive yet reliable method to test such lands for contamination. If contamination is found in levels that require clean-up, the Tribe would have the opportunity to compete for funding to clean it up or could incorporate the clean-up in to other funding opportunities that are available. In addition, there are multiple sources of funding currently available for redevelopment of the site. Clean up levels will be determined by the end use of the property. A public meeting is in the planning stages to provide the community an opportunity to learn more about the project. Contact Environmental Director, Renee' Genise Hood, MPH, at 405-273-9966 or drop by OEP if you would like to learn more.

There are several other projects in operation in the OEP offices, under the GAP grant, Environmental Technician Roger Anderson will be visiting Tribal lands and allotments with open dumping issues. Once an open dump has been located, details about the dump will be recorded, shared with the Office of Environmental Health and Engineering, and monitored to determine if the dumping is ongoing. Open dumps are ugly and have the potential to lower property values, harm wildlife and damage the environment. If you have questions or would like to report a dump site on Tribal or Absentee Shawnee Allotment lands, please contact Roger Anderson at the OEP office at telephone 405-273-9966.

An additional project, the AST Brownfields Tribal Response Program is currently under development and is in its initial year of funding from the USEPA. Under this project, the capacity of the Tribe to assess specific environmental conditions including indoor air quality, surface water quality, soil conditions and outdoor air quality are being greatly enhanced. While assessment activities are very limited under the current years workplan, it is expected that the next years funding will enable OEP to take a more active role in this area. Questions about this project can be directed to the Environmental Director or to Ms. Lucinda Johnson, Environmental Assistant at the same number as above.

Visitors are welcome in the OEP office; it is a priority of the program to have an open oor policy in regards to the various environmental projects underway. Access to the sites is limited due to safety concerns and potential environmental conditions but videos and photos have been developed to assist in community understanding of the conditions. All staff are available to answer any questions and are looking forward to meeting with more of the Tribal Community.

Way to Go!

Congratulations to Jody Veitenheimer the Weight Wrestlers Round 3 winner! Jody won an elliptical for losing the most weight and turning in log sheets. The class had a total weight loss of 76 pounds! The AST Diabetes and Wellness Program have continuously offered the weight loss program in Shawnee with much success. If you would like to join a weight loss program in Little Axe, please give us a call at 360-0698. Come join a supportive, motivating, and educational experience.

Campaign Letters Of Candidates For The Office Of Governor

Kenneth Blanchard

Dear Tribal Members:

I would like to thank those of you who supported me in the primary election. I am sure that most, or all of you, know the outcome of that election. If I have your support, I am asking that each of you make an extra effort to ensure that votes are cast. The outcome of this election will determine the future of our Tribe.

I have spoken with many of you regarding my plans as Governor. Over the past several years the tribe has done nothing but excel. Please reflect back on the benefits you were receiving and the benefits that you are currently receiving. It takes a fortune to provide benefits to over 3,000 tribal members from birth up. Perhaps you have noticed the explosion in tribal programs that benefit individual tribal members and their families. These programs are available to you because of dedicated leadership with innovative ideas and motivation. Let us keep moving forward.

The Tribe just received an award letter from HUD in the amount of $750,000.00 for the construction of a police facility, the Administration on Aging grant funded the Title VI Program with an additional $68,000.00, the new community center that is being designed at Johnson Community Center is a state of the art facility, there will be none like it anywhere.

The increased burial assistance, increased clothing allowance, the appliance programs, the storm shelter program, the tribal energy assistance programs, tribal housing improvement program, the dance grounds, driveway program, cultural and language activities, environmental pest control, and the list goes on and on. Many of these programs have been established over the past six years, some have been here for many years, being improved by adding additional funding and expanding guidelines.

Do you want to take a chance on diminishing or completely loosing these programs by allowing a new administration to take over? I would think that you would want to keep progressing for the sake of our children and our elders.

I respectfully request your vote on June 18th.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Blanchard
Governor

I want to thank those of you that supported me on March 19th for the Office of Governor. I will continue to look for your support on June 18th and it will be an honor if elected to the position of Governor of our Tribe. These are just a few of the things that I will want to accomplish if elected.

- Provide a per cap payment to all members of the Tribe regardless of age
- Establish a trust fund for children 18 and under
- Increase allowance for eyeglasses from $200 to $350 annually
- Allow the members to purchase their eyeglasses where they reside
- Improve the delivery system of the Mail Order Pharmacy
- Stop the buying of land needlessly without a proper usage plan in place
- Repay all the debt of the Tribe
- Never mortgage the Tribe's assets ever again
- Employ Tribal Members
- Report the true financial condition of the Tribe to the members
- Place tax reports back in newspaper
- Improve the quality of Health Care Programs

These are just a few of the things that I would want to accomplish for the members of the Tribe. Including in any new administration there needs to be a review of all budgets coming under the Tribal Government. It is my commitment from me to you that I will preform this review and any savings will go to services or programs that benefit our members

Larry Nuckolls

regardless of where they live.

This position of Governor that I'm seeking is taken very seriously with me and the oath that is administered to me. With the position come responsibility and the many needs of our members will have to be addressed. We, as leaders have got to lead and not follow. If elected, my administration will have the thoughts of the many and notjust the thoughts of a few. My Administration will represent the whole and not just the few, has been the case 'in the past.

I have demonstrated this ability before as a four-term Governor in the past. It is with great honor that you have selected me before to lead the Tribe and if elected I will make every effort to lead us in the right direction as the future depends on good stewardship and the ability to make sound decision without undue influence from anyone.

In closing regardless if I succeed or not I want to thank those of you that have supported me in this campaign. Together we can move forward to promote the Tribe and its members in whatever direction that we may head, but together we have to be.

I respectfully request your support and vote on June 18" and if elected it will be an honor to represent you once again as the Governor of our Tribe.

Sincerely
Larry Nuckolls

Campaign Letters of Candidates For The Office Of Secretary

I am Marian Alford Reeves and I am running for election to the office of Absentee Shawnee Tribal Secretary.

Marian Alford Reeves

I have worked at the tribe for the past 10 years, starting as the Receptionist, became the Administrative Assistant to the Treasurer, worked as Contract Health Specialist and was the Administrative Assistant to the Governor until Governor Edwards passed away on October 21, 2003. I retained that position until February 1, 2004 when I was appointed by the Executive Committee to fill the vacancy on the Executive Committee for Secretary of the Tribe. Since I have been the Tribal Secretary I have been given oversight of the Executive Committee Meetings, General Council Meetings, Enrollment, Title VI (Elderly Nutrition) Program, the Family Services Department and the Education Department which is involved in Oklahoma Money Matters, Family Services covers many different things such as the Day Care Center, Child Care, Youth Counselor, Indian Child Welfare, Preventive Services, Child Protection, Foster Care, Providing Safe and Stable Families, Tutoring, STARS after School Program at the AST Resource Center, the annual Summer Camp and T.E.A.M.(Teens Encouraging Abstinence til Marriage) and the Domestic Abuse Support Group.

I lead the Domestic Abuse Support Group A lot of trust has been established in this group and it is helping women in troubled situations. Many women will not interact with a man in these situations. This program is very important and it may save someone's life. It has had a very good start with more and more inquiries every week. Another group may start soon at Thunderbird if there is a response and I have reason to believe this will happen. If you have questions about that group call Mary Birdtail at Thunderbird Casino.

I am currently working on putting together a children's choir. Music brings out things in children that nothing else can. There is always one moment in childhood when the door opens and lets the future in. Sometimes this door is music.

I am also looking for a way to help neglected elders. Many of our elders have very little social interactions and spend a lot of time alone. I want to create a program where someone checks on them and if they have needs that are not being addressed we need to find out how we can help them. Our Community Health Nurses do a wonderful job but they can only address health issues and they don't get to see all of our elders.

I was sworn into office on February 1, 2003 and in a little more than a year I have created the Storm Shelter Program, the Kitchen Appliance Program and the Washer and Dryer Program for the elders of our tribe. I have been able to expand these programs from our local jurisdiction to all elderly tribal members in Oklahoma. I have also lowered the age requirement from 55 years of age to 50 years of age by May 1, 2005. After the members over 50 have been served I fully intend to look for new programs, revise these current programs and expand the service area. Looking forward to the future I hope to offer, create and give my full support to more services to all tribal members wherever they reside. Since 1999 our tribe has made such progress in economic development and social programs that it is amazing to me that some people want to go back to the way we were in 1999. We had very little until a new administration came in. Ask yourself if you are better off today than you were then. Were you getting a per cap check then? Was our casino making any money to put into these programs? Do you have more services and programs that can help you? We are gradually expanding our services to a larger area. We cannot make everything happen overnight. If we keep growing like we are in our businesses the future is very bright for each and every tribal member no matter where they live. We need continuity not drastic change.

I am at work every day and I am very accessible. I am listed in the phone book. I have been here for over 10 years now and I have a complete understanding of the tribal programs.

My staff and I are currently updating all our tribal enrollment records and we are putting the minutes and resolutions on disk and copies will be available to the public. The originals will be stored in a fire proof vault to protect them for posterity.

My opponent states that he will represent the tribe on a national and local level. If you will look at the work load that I have you will understand why I don't travel very much. The Governor and the Lt. Governor represent the tribe in these areas and if you will look in the AST Constitution **that is not the job of the Secretary**. I am not like a lot of past officials who travel on the tribe's money just to be able to go on mini vacations. My department does not have a vehicle assigned to it because we don't need one. My staff goes to training sessions occasionally but that is to educate them to improve our services to our tribal members. We usually borrow a tribal vehicle.

I am running on my merits and past performance of my job. I do not need to point out the flaws of others if I have merits of my own to campaign on. Since 1999 the Executive Committee has conducted business like mature, responsible adults and there is no room in our progress for petty behavior.

I ask for your vote in the Run Off Election to be held on June 18, 2005. I will continue to serve you with dedication and integrity. I take my job very seriously and I ask for 2 more years as your AST Secretary so that I can continue to make my programs grow and create new ones. I want to leave the quality of life of all our tribal members better because I was here and tried to help them.

This is a position that should be held by a woman because of the interaction with young people, women in abusive situations, sexually abused children and I don't think they would interact with a man.

Dear Fellow Tribal Member:

Ho, hi ko wa se li si mi mo? Ho wa se ke se ke. (Hello, how are you? It is a good day.)

Scott Miller

I hope all is well with you. I would like to take this opportunity to say Ne yi wa (thank you) to each and every one of you for your participation and support in the March primary election. I am honored to be your candidate for Tribal Secretary in the Run Off Election set for Saturday, June 18, 2005. I also hope that you continue your participation in the May Secretarial and June elections. Remember this is YOUR government.

First, I would like to provide you an overview of my professional background, so that you can see I have more to offer for the Office of Tribal Secretary. I have the experience to facilitate, improve, and sustain our tribal programs. My tribal work experience has been with our tribal housing authority and with the Sac & Fox Nation as their Land Acquisition and Disposal Specialist and I am now the Director of our Cultural Preservation Department. I have compiled a brief list of various duties that will contribute to the position I am seeking. I have developed budgets for program operation, developed working relationships with different agencies; I had duties involving preparing documentation and casework for Fee to Trust land acquisitions and performed functions related to real property management. I implemented, monitored and evaluated methods for economic effectiveness for the risk management process and monitored records of statistics, expenditures and information required to prepare monthly and end of the year reports. I have professional training through:

- National American Indian Housing Council
- Department Of Housing And Urban Development
- State Of Oklahoma/real Estate Preparation
- Department Of Interior/Bia/Fee To Trust Acquisition

Also, I am a consultant with the Missouri Humanities Council for a museum exhibit about the Shawnee people and culture. I am especially proud of this last listing because our Shawnee culture is something that cannot be learned in school or in an office setting. Growing up, I learned the Shawnee ways from our elders and in turn I am proud to teach my children because this is what makes us proud Shawnees. We are nothing if we do not have our culture; we merely become an enterprise, not a tribe.

Many tribal members have been discussing the activities of the current Secretary and I must agree that her sincerity and actions are very questionable throughout her appointed term. Especially, the new washer and dryer program and the lowering of the age requirement to 50 years of age since the March election. One day while visiting with an elder, we were discussing the newest program, I had to chuckle when the elder said, "What's next living room furniture?" On a serious note, I encourage all tribal elders to take advantage of these programs because you are entitled too. The main problem with this program is the limiting criteria. It does not include those elders who live in rental houses, other housing situations, or even out of state. This program should be available to all elders regardless of how and where they live.

I feel the Executive Committee had an opportunity to really help out our tribal citizens by passing the Housing Act. The one most burdensome expense to an elder or any family is a monthly house payment. I see nothing wrong with helping our tribal members by paying off their Mutual Help home in a certain number of years. After all, the goal of the Mutual Help Program was to make individuals homeowners and passing the Housing Act that goal would have been achieved.

Young growing families are not immune to needing assistance from time to time. With the cost of living on the rise, our young people need a hand up too. Programs need to be in place to assist our young families with different needs. If there is money available as the Executive Committee says the Tribe has, then there is more room for program development and increasing funding for existing programs. For example, tribal members would like to see an increase in the monies for the vision program. Instead of having tribal members choose between glasses and contacts, why can't members have both if they choose to do so?

The December per capita payment was a nice gift during this past holiday season, but why did only certain age group benefit when others were left out? Aren't our school age children tribal members too? It is my belief that all tribal members should benefit from a per capita payment as long as all the programs are fully funded.

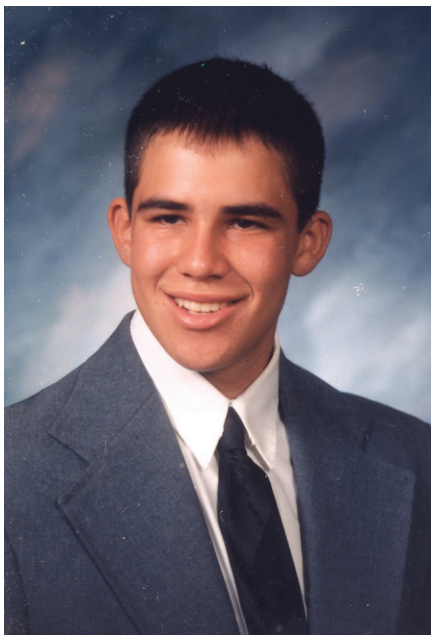
I am in support of all elder programs and the creation of youth programs as well, but we must first generate revenues through economic endeavors to sustain the cost of development, implementation, and operation of any program. I look forward to the day we become a self-sufficient tribe. This will give us the opportunity to help all tribal members without having to use federal guidelines and tribal restrictions against our own people.

As I stated before, the key to effective leadership is communication and action. Whether in politics or not, ultimately, I will do everything with integrity, be honest to others and myself, and I promise to do the absolute best that I can do as your Tribal Secretary.

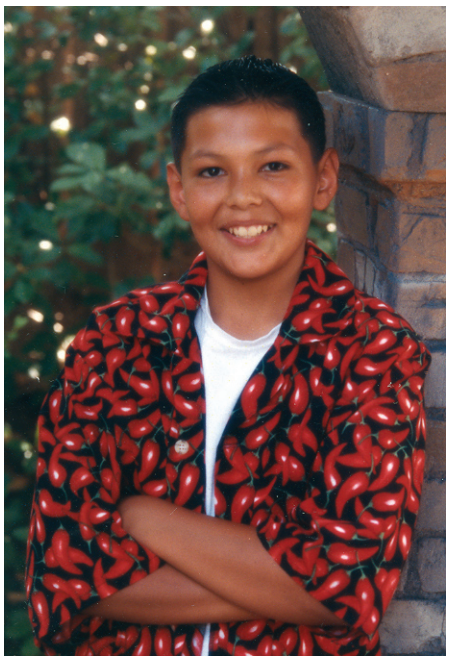
Respectfully and Ne yi wa!
Elect
Scott Miller
Absentee Shawnee Tribal Secretary

THUNDERBIRD CASINO
5th Annual Pow Wow
June 24th & 25th, 2005
17 miles east of Norman, OK, on Hwy. 9
FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
Emcee: Dean Whitebreast
Arena Director: Dennis Little Axe
Head Man Dancer: Algene Washington
Head Lady Dancer: Jayne Werst
Head Gourd Dancer: Al Bronaugh
Head Southern Drum: Cozad Family Singers
Head Northern Drum: Blackbird Singers
Contests In All Adult Categories
Contestants must be in both 7:00 p.m. grand entries
Golden Age: Men and Women
$750 - $300 - $250 - $150
Adult: Men And Women
$750 - $300 - $250 - $150
Teens: Boys and Girls 13-17 yrs.
$200 - $150 - $100 - $50
Combined Juniors: Boys and Girls 7-12 yrs.
$150 - $75 - $50 - $25
Tiny Tots
2 OR LESS DANCERS IN A CATEGORY, CATEGORIES WILL BE COMBINED
OVER $25,000 IN PRIZE MONEY
Gourd Dancing begins at 6:00pm Friday and 2:00pm Saturday
Special Invitation to the Kiowa Gourd Clan
Supper Break At 5:00pm, Saturday
Gourd Dancing resumes at 6:00pm
Drum Contest:
Northern & Southern Categories
$1,000 - $500 - $300
Friday Night Special
$500 Winner-Take-All
Women's Fancy Shawl & Buckskin
Men's Traditional & Fancy
Friday Night
Stomp Dance Exhibition
All dance grounds invited
Contact Information;
Pow Wow Coordinator - 405.360.9270 ext. 226
Booth Fee $50.00 please contact Shawn at ext. 270 for application
Thunderbird Casino is an Absentee Shawnee Enterprise and is not responsible for accidents or thefts
Must be 18 to enter the casino. No alcohol, firearms, or drugs of any type permitted.
Thunderbird Casino, 15700 E. St. Hwy. 9, Norman, OK, 73026

CONGRATULATIONS TO TRIBAL MEMBERS THAT ARE GRADUATING THIS MONTH!



Jason Troy Jeske will be graduating from the University of Central Oklahoma. He is the Grandson of Beverly Butler.



Josh Gibson, also the Grandson of Beverly Butler will graduate from Meeker High School.

Caden Brien Blanchard, will graduate from Little Axe Kindergarten this month also. He is the Great Grandson of Beverly Butler.

Derek

Congratulations, you finally made it!
About time.
We love you, Great Aunt Sadie, Sherrie, Justin & Jiliyan

We're so proud of you Derek Wayne.
We love you.
Great Aunt Twana, Brandy & Micah

Congratulations! I'm so proud of you, peeper. I knew you could do it!
I love you very much, Mom.

You finally done it! We're so proud of you.
We love you, grandma & Grandpa Pickering.

Congratulations Big Cousin!
We Love You!
Laurel Brad, Doyle Chad and Rodney Shane.

We're so proud of you
Love you,
Dad & Lisa
Grandma & Grandpa Woody

Congratulations Karena on your Graduation from High School. Love, Your Family

HAPPY MOTHERS DAY
To all the special moms in our family
Velma Blanchard, Anna Smith, Sharon Shawnee,
Lindsey Shawnee, Katie Yates, Lois Gibson,
Carol Blanchard & Marilyn Byers
We Love you!
Marvin, Sherry, & Jordan

Happy Birthday
To
Roy Gene Gibson
Love,
Marv & Sherry

Happy 3rd Birthday
May 27th to
Christian Daniel Byers
From
Auntie Sherry, Uncle Marv,
Jordan, Landon, & Mallory

HAPPY MOTHERS DAY TO ALL MOMS, WE LOVE YOU!

Linda Penn, (third from left) Regional Director, Region VI of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services recently visited the Absentee Shawnee tribe.

Left to right are: Katherine, Yvette, Leslie, Cindy and Thomasine at a recent Wellness Event.

SLOAN
Reunion
COMING IN JUNE

Calling all Sloan descendants!
Come join us for food, fun and lots of visiting!!

If you would like to be involved in the planning of this event or would like more information

Please contact:
Shirley Adkins 405.325.6576
Karen Kaniatobe 405.701.2432

May Birthday List of Tribal Members

05/01	Cuppawhe, Beatrice Maxine
05/01	Johnson, Walter Kirby
05/01	Robertson, Rita Jean York
05/01	Parker, Richard M.
05/01	Mathany, Susanne Christine
05/01	Uchida Jr, Stephen Robert
05/01	Witt, Ambra Denise
05/02	Alford Sr., Elroy R.
05/02	Wilson, Francis Lynn
05/02	Box, Dorothy Lorene
05/02	Sanders, Patty Ruth
05/02	Evans, Lisa Michelle
05/02	Montgomery, Matthew Schyler
05/02	Johnson, Whittney Brooke
05/02	Johnson, Nicholas James
05/03	Johnson Harjo, Curtis Ray
05/03	Charley, Melloney Ann
05/03	Hood, Elena Ann
05/03	Wallace, Brenda Gayle
05/03	Robison, Thomas Aaron
05/03	Kobs, Jennifer Ann
05/04	Keith, Mr. Marshall Collins
05/04	Tallchief, John G.
05/04	Buckley, Gerald Wayne
05/04	Schulenberg, Donald Derek
05/04	Smith, Richard Alexander
05/04	Hood, Thomas Edgar
05/04	Wilkerson, Katie Evalyn
05/05	Finley, Oleta Virginia
05/05	Maxfield, Cordelia Dirt
05/05	Cuellar, Orietta Faith
05/05	Springer, Delores Ann
05/05	Noyes, Paula Jo
05/06	Meyer, Doreen
05/06	McGowan, Patricia Lynn
05/06	Strain, Cynthia Ann
05/06	Rock, Micheal Eugene
05/06	Smith, Jeremiah Robert
05/06	Gaut, Crystal Lynne
05/06	Taylor, Darwin Jacob
05/07	Salazar, Terry Lee
05/07	Oldham, George Lynn
05/07	Buckner, June
05/07	Kaseca, Mr. Roy James
05/07	Hale, Kathy Sue
05/07	Tiger, Roland
05/07	Shular, Monte Lee
05/07	Bateman, Alberta Denise
05/07	McKane, Andrea Nadine
05/07	Citty, Lindsey Nicole
05/07	New Moon, Jake Lee
05/07	Johnson, Coree Lee
05/08	Rupe, Dorothy Ann
05/08	Gibson, Martha Lee
05/08	Hutchinson, Velma Rae
05/08	Kaseca, Barry Alvin
05/08	Ellis, Holly Diana
05/08	Wakolee, Carmen Jean
05/09	Pyrch, Karen Sue
05/09	Atwell, David Eugene
05/09	Spoon Jr, Mr. Robert Ray
05/09	Smith, Valerie Ann
05/09	Bender, Leal Desma
05/10	Ponkilla, Glendine Blanchard
05/10	Berry, Diane Sue
05/10	Tiger, Timothy Don
05/10	Blackburn, Gayle Ann
05/10	Megehee, Tonia Lynn
05/10	Megehee, Douglas Dewayne
05/10	Johnson, Michael Scott Isaiah
05/10	Littlecreek, Dakota Dwight
05/11	Walker, Jo Ann Louise
05/11	Battise, Wannetta Jean
05/11	Brister, April Angela
05/11	Little Charley, Cheryl Jean
05/11	Brady, Lynn Marie
05/11	Lopez Jr, Rolando
05/11	Hernandez, Jennifer Lois
05/11	Wilson, Cecil Alan
05/11	Littlecreek, Tiffany Nicole
05/11	Belvin, Justin Ray
05/11	Allen, Lucinda Nicole
05/12	Pearl, Melvin Joe
05/12	Raisbeck, David Nathaniel
05/12	Parker, Shawn Ian
05/12	Blanchard, Joey Edward
05/12	Ramirez, Elicia Marie-Alka
05/12	Johnson, Gabriella Kayann
05/13	Henry, Eddie A.
05/13	Sultuska, Jerry Wayne
05/13	Hood Jr., Warren Weslyon
05/13	Powell, Fawn Laverene
05/13	Grass, Larra Marie
05/13	Battise, Tasheena Seannay
05/13	Blanchard, Dakota Joshua
05/13	Littlecreek, Anderson D.
05/14	Wilkerson, Barbara Lee
05/14	Wilson, Lana Louise
05/14	Wucinski, Gary Ray
05/14	Elephant Jr., Edward Elmer
05/14	Washington, Lucille Axe
05/14	Surface Jr., Robert Monroe
05/14	Gibson Sr, Roy Gene
05/14	Stevens, Laurence Paul
05/14	Combs, Michelle Lynn
05/14	Smith, Teresa Renee`
05/14	Miller, Casey Ryan
05/15	Allen, Patricia Ann
05/15	Snake, Norma Louise
05/15	Munroe, Douglas
05/15	Minesinger, Scott Brooker
05/15	Lasenberry, Amanda Ranee`
05/15	Littlecreek, Tristyn Denae
05/16	Rolette, Gilbert Earl
05/16	Bettelyoun, Lula Mae
05/16	Byers, Deborah Kay
05/16	Soap Jr, John Lee
05/16	Williams, Verna May
05/16	Roach, Dakota Eugene
05/17	Cripps, Anita Louise
05/17	Wolfe Sr., Houston Hugh
05/17	Starr, Anthony Craig
05/17	Irvin, Steven Benjamin
05/17	Blanchard, Joseph Henry
05/17	Alford, Amy Dianne
05/17	Thorpe, Burke James
05/17	Pelts, Mary Caroline
05/17	Longhorn, Sean Ray
05/17	Spriggs, Warren Paul
05/17	Gray, Dakota Christian
05/17	Spoon, Landon Joe
05/18	Godwin, Lucy G.
05/18	Tallchief IV, Eves
05/18	Kowitz, Michael Raymond
05/18	Alford, Christian Shawnee
05/18	Morton, Jeremiah James
05/19	MacGill, Georgia Sue
05/19	Johnson Jr., Richard Taft
05/19	Williams, Glenn Aaron
05/19	Hood, Lisa
05/20	Mann, Sally Arlene
05/20	Neugent, Alisa Marie
05/20	Ahtone, Catlin Ray
05/20	Williams, Colton Alexander
05/20	Spybuck, Easton Cade
05/20	Fife, Gabriel Douglas
05/21	Bigpond, Roy
05/21	Davis, Dale Allen
05/21	Ellis, Michael Frank
05/21	Spicer, Amber Jo
05/21	Hendrick, Luke Michael
05/21	Hunt, Dominique Annastasia
05/21	Rolette, Joshua David Michael
05/22	Creamer, Cora Mae Starr
05/22	Wesley, Ula Mae Welch
05/22	Smith, Vanessa Rae
05/22	Little Creek, Vernon Dale
05/22	Squire, Nathan Gene
05/22	Powell, Kendall Lynn
05/23	Haskins, Wanda Marie Hancock
05/23	Sultuska, Ella L.
05/23	Summers, Dorothy Jean Dirt
05/23	Wilson, Ms. Helen June
05/23	Kmatz, Mindy Lynnette
05/23	Rudloff, Lacey Rei
05/23	Laxton, Chelsea Nicole
05/23	Breeding, Sean K. C.
05/24	Griffey, Opal (Bradley)
05/24	Molina, Roy Gilbert Rivera
05/24	Bullard, Adam Drew
05/24	Longhorn, Weda Louise
05/24	Little Charley, Terry Lee
05/24	Pawpa, Donald Wayne
05/24	Johnson, Priscilla Grace
05/24	Watson, Brittany L. P. D.
05/24	MacK, Rylan Emory
05/24	Robison, Morgan Tell
05/24	Little Axe, Shawneen Rae
05/25	Williams, Ruth Helen
05/25	Humphrey, Carol Lee
05/25	Kaseca, David Allen
05/25	Squire, Lavonna Jean
05/25	Talbert, Elainia Michelle
05/25	Wilson, Carla Marie
05/25	New Moon, Jennifer Brooke
05/26	Washington Sr., Curtis
05/26	Ramirez Jr., Florentino
05/26	Neugent, Alena Dee
05/27	Footracer, Lee Anna Gail Stubb
05/27	Watson, Thomas Aaron
05/27	Little Axe, Sabrina
05/27	Hill, Yvette Carmel
05/27	Young, Mrs. Linda Renee
05/27	Rolette, Domini Antoinette
05/27	Byers, Christian Daniel
05/28	Houck, Donna Joan
05/28	Starr III, Henry James
05/28	Masquat Jr, George
05/28	Bentley, Curtis Lee
05/28	Gibson, Jeffrey Wayne
05/28	Bryant III, Chester A.
05/28	Foreman Jr, Leonard Dewayne
05/28	Gray, Mr. Branden Tyler
05/28	Ferrell, Alyssa Kay
05/29	Atchico, Mr. John Edward
05/29	Baughman, Brenda Jane
05/29	Coffee, Larry Otis
05/29	Lovins, Earl Dean
05/29	Carpenter, Jacqueline
05/29	Alford, Ms. Magdelena Spaneta
05/29	Bentley, Jamie Lynn
05/29	Ellis, Heather Ann
05/29	Pyrch, Lauren Karly
05/30	Morgan, Mrs. Polly A Littlebear
05/30	Edwards, Mr. Glen W.
05/30	Warrior, Johnny Andrew
05/30	Wilson, Diana Lynn
05/30	Soap, Mr. Roger Eugene
05/30	Armstrong, Emily Renee
05/30	Gibson, David Michael
05/30	Masquat, Chelcy Nicole
05/30	Grass, Amelia Ann
05/30	Kaseca, Kantynn James
05/31	Dibler Jr., George
05/31	Graves, Sharol Annette
05/31	White, Clayton Randall
05/31	Lovins, Audrey Ann
05/31	Colungo, Steven Lee
05/31	Wilson, Christopher Blaine
05/31	Whittaker, Teresa Laura
05/31	Warrior, Kenneth James
05/31	Galloway, Zachary Adam
05/31	Tiger, Jennifer Diane
05/31	Mitchell, Desiree Rose

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, TRIBAL MEMBERS !!!!

FOR ELDERS ONLY

May 2005

By: Cindy Carpenter

Hello to my fine elders, I hope everyone is doing A-OK and enjoying the nice warm days. I hope everyone enjoyed our visit to the casino on April 7,2005. We will be going again on June 9,2005. So, sign up now! You can call me or come have lunch with me here at the dining room. You must sign up before May 29,2005 YOU MUST BE ON THE LIST TO GO!!!

I would like to remind the ones that signed up to go on the Aquarium trip to Jenks, Oklahoma on Friday, May 6, 2005. We will leave from the Title VI Bldg. at 9:00 sharp, so don't be late. If you think you won't be able to go, please call me so someone else may go.

I am going to be putting a cookbook together so I am asking all elders to submit your favorite recipes. This maybe (Appetizers, Relishes, Soups, Salads, Sauces, Main Dishes, Vegetables, Breads, Rolls, Pies, Pastries, Desserts, Beverages, Sandwiches & Miscellaneous) they will need to be well written so that I can type them out and able to read them and have your name on your recipe so that your name can on your recipe in the book. Should you have any questions please call me here at the office or just come and visit me I will be glad to see you. I will be taking recipes until the end of July.

I have scheduled the "Driver Safety Program Class" on June 20 th and June 2l st. from l:00-4:00 here at the Title VI Dining Room I have a few signed up now and still have room for more. If you need a ride, please call and we will be glad to provide transportation for you. (Food & Drinks will be provided)

Title VI will be closed on Friday, May 27, 2005 for CPR Training for my staff no meals will be delivered but a sack lunch will be provided for the homebound elders. And we will also be closed the following Monday for Memorial Day May 30, 2005. Meals will resume on that Tuesday, May 31, 2005. 1 would also like to mention, that the Title VI Grant was approved with a $60,000 increase.

That's all the news I have for now, please mark these dates down on your calendar so you won't forget. Until next month stay cool and calm, the temp is rising.

SCHEDULE OF ELDER EVENTS

May 27 & May 30	Title VI Closed
June 9	Seniors Day Out 9:00-2:00
June 17	Father's Day Bingo & Dinner 11:30-1:30
June 20'. & June 21	Driver Safety Program Class 1:00 - 4:00

PLEASE fill out **EACH BLANK** completely and return by the Deadline.

ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST

I, _____, hereby certify that I am or will be an Eligible Voter of
(Print Name)
the Absentee Shawnee Tribe on or before June 18, 2005. I cannot physically be present to cast my Vote at the June 18, 2005 Run Off Election, therefore I am requesting an Absentee Ballot be mailed to me at the following address.

Name (please print):_____
(first) (middle) (maiden) (last)

Address:_____ City:_____ St:_____ Zip:_____

CDIB#:_____ Date of Birth:_____

Signature:_____ Date:_____

All **REQUEST** must be received by May 29, 2005

Return this Form to:

Absentee Shawnee Election Commission
P.O. Box 741
Tecumseh, OK 74873

All eligible voters are entitled to vote, either at the Polls or by Absentee Ballot.

For your convenience - This request my be duplicated

ELECTION COMMISSION USE ONLY

Received: _____ Approved:_____ Disapproved:_____

If Disapproved (reason):_____

Denial Letter Mailed:_____ Ballot Mailed:_____

_____
Election Commission/Representative

NEWS FROM THE

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

The following are current programs administered by the Absentee Shawnee Tribe Education Department:

- *Academic (K-12)—assists with academic related expenses and some assistance for school sponsored athletic programs.*
- *Zahn—assistance with graduation expenses, GED and High School graduation incentives*
- *Job Training/Adult Education—for those interested in vocational training and career development.*
- *Education Incentive Award—for those interested in undergraduate degrees.*
- *Graduate Scholarship—for those interested in Master's or Doctoral degrees.*

Attention:

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma has been selected as a field site for the Oklahoma Money Matters (OKMM) AmeriCorps Education Award Program. We are able to have two (2) more members for the program. At the heart of AmeriCorps, under the Corporation for National and Community Service, are members who serve with local and national organizations to meet community needs and, after their service, receive education awards to offset the expenses of a college education. In this case members will serve 300 hours in a one-year service term and after successful completion of their term will earn a $1,000.00 education award that can be used to pay direct education expenses like tuition, room and board and repayment of student loans. Member enrollment will begin again on June 1st, 2005. Volunteers do not have to be AST tribal members, but do have to have a high school diploma or GED.

THE AST EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IS LOCATED IN BUILDING #2, WITHIN THE TRIBAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE.

For more information, please call Tresha Spoon at (405) 275-4030 ext. 121 or 1-800-256-3341 or email to tresham@astribe.com.

To Go Orders Available
ABUELITO'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT
Granny's Recipes
15704 East Highway 9
Norman Okla
405 360-4400
Open 7 days a week
Sun-Thurs 11 a.m to 9 p.m.
Fri-Sat 11a.m. to 10 p.m.

Cultural/Historical Preservation Department

By Scott Miller, Director

Ho, ho wa se ke se ke! Hi gi ke ya fi ho wa se li si mi mo? (Hello, it is a good day! Is everyone feeling fine?)

I am happy to announce the first in a series of language tapes is now available upon request. The tape contains words and phrases used in everyday life and some of the material printed in the previous issues of the Absentee Shawnee Newspaper. The tape is free to any Absentee Shawnee tribal member living anywhere in the United States; you may request a tape by contacting the Cultural Preservation Department at 1-800-256-3341 or (405) 275-4030 and providing your current mailing address. We hope the tapes will spark an interest for our tribal members to learning our language and keeping it alive for generations to come.

Deer hide tanning class was held on Saturday April 2 and Sunday April 3 at Brendle Corner Community Center. Mr. Donald Cole from Denison, Texas instructed the class in a lecture setting and showed us the entire process of tanning a hide by using three different hides in various stages. There were 12 participants in attendance both days and many interested tribal members inquiring about the next hide tanning class. We will be sure to inform everyone well in advance of the next class.

With the beginning of our ceremonial year, the Cultural Preservation Department will not hold any demonstration classes in the months of May and June. The Traditional Crafts and Food Fair scheduled for Saturday April 30 has been postponed and will be rescheduled for a later date. We will inform everyone as to the date of the crafts and food fair when it is determined.

We encourage everyone stop by the AST Gift Shop and look at our merchandise. The ladies spring color shirts have sold well and we still have sizes available. We have two tanned buckskins and bells for sale upon request along with traditional dresses and men's shirts. The 2005 AST calendar will now be free to any tribal member who visits the gift shop, stop by and pick one today!

Our cemetery project is moving along well, any information our tribal members can provide please contact the Cultural Preservation Department. We are trying to locate and document burial areas here in our jurisdiction; this will help us protect family burial areas from any development or disturbances in the future.

We are currently planning to revisit the elders' interview project which was conducted a few years ago. We will be visiting any elder wishing to share information about tribal history, stories, or traditions that may be slowly disappearing. More information about this project will be available in future articles.

He ne, si li no ke ka no la. Ne yi wa! (That's all, until next time. Thank you!)

CHANGE OF ADDRESS
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ABSENTEE SHAWNEE NEWS
2025 S. GORDON COOPER DR.
SHAWNEE, OK 74801

Absentee Shawnee Language Lesson 6

Expressions

no ti ma fe	**I'm busy**
ho ti ma fe	**he's busy**
we si la pe wi	**excited**
ho wa se la pe wi	**happy**
ho wa se la ni wa	**good person (Indian)**
fe qi ne ke ya	**noisy**
te ka fe qi ne ka	**stop making noise**
hi le no la we	**restless**
mi ge ta ha fe	**cranky**
pa ke se ko wa	**gripping**
pi qi ne mi pa	**talk about**
ho wa ne lo ki ta fe	**now I'm tired**
yo ma ke ta pa la	**I'm giving this to you**
ho wa se wi pi ne	**good morning**

Fruits and Vegetables

fa me qi	**squash**
se pi ne ki fa we	**okra**
me yi se fi ke	**potatoes**
ma ki ta le qi ke	**black-eye peas**
ki ti pi ke	**wild potato**
ma se ko ge fi ke	**pinto bean**
ti me	**corn**
wi pe ko	**pumpkin**
se ke ti ma ke	**watermelon**
sa me po qi ke	**cantaloupe**
ki se ga yi ke	**cucumber**
ma se qi ta wi le	**tomato**
me se me ni ke	**apples**
po ki mi ke	**peaches**
po ki mi fa ke	**plums (red wild)**
me fo lo me	**grapes**
ho ta ha me	**strawberries**
me ni ke	**blackberries**

Material may contain typographical errors and are correctable.

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The Absentee Shawnee Web Page
is now available at
www.absenteeshawneetribe-nsn.gov

SPECIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
LEGISLATIVE
FEBRUARY 24, 2005

L-AS-2005-06
A RESOLUTION DULY ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ABSENTEE-SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA AMENDING CHAPTER FIVE, SECTIONS 2(b), 2(d), AND 3 OF THE ABSENTEE SHAWNEE LICENSING & TAX CODE, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.

WHEREAS, it is necessary from time to time to update the Tribe's Tax laws, and

WHEREAS, the Absentee-Shawnee Tax Commission approved amendments to Chapter 5 of the AST Licensing and Tax Code and have presented these amendments to the AST Executive Committee.

CERTIFICATION
We, Kenneth Blanchard, Governor and Marian Reeves, Secretary of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, do hereby certify that this Resolution No. L-AS-2005-06 to be a true and exact copy as approved by the Executive Committee of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma at a duly called meeting held on February 24, 2005, there being a quorum present, **by a vote of 2 in favor, 1 opposed, and 0 abstentions, as follows: Lt. Governor Daugherty: Yes, Secretary Reeves: YES, Treasurer Ellis: Absent, Representative Nuckolls: NO, Governor's vote, if required, N/A.**

L-AS-2005-07
A RESOLUTION DULY ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ABSENTEE-SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA AMENDING CHAPTER 8, SECTION 7 OF THE ABSENTEE SHAWNEE LICENSING & TAX CODE, EFFECTIVELY IMMEDIATELY.

WHEREAS, the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe Tax Commission has proposed amending Chapter 8, Section 7 of the AST Licensing & Tax Code as amended, on attached AST Tax Commission Resolution TC-AS-2004-01, and
WHEREAS, Chapter 8, Section 7 of the AST Licensing & Tax Code as amended, subjects tribal members to possible double taxation under the regulations for taxing manufactured homes.

CERTIFICATION
We, Kenneth Blanchard, Governor and Marian Reeves, Secretary of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, do hereby certify that this Resolution No. L-AS-2005-07 to be a true and exact copy as approved by the Executive Committee of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma at a duly called meeting held on February 24, 2005, there being a quorum present, **by a vote of 2 in favor, 1 opposed, and 0 abstentions, as follows: Lt. Governor Daugherty: Yes, Secretary Reeves: YES, Treasurer Ellis: Absent, Representative Nuckolls: NO, Governor's vote, if required, N/A.**

L-AS-2005-08
A RESOLUTION DULY ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA AUTHORIZING THE CREATION OF A BUDGET FOR THE SECRETARIAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON MAY 14, 2005 WITH RESPECT TO PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE TRIBE'S CONSTITUTION.

WHEREAS, the Executive committee has proposed Constitutional amendments to the Tribe's Constitution; and
WHEREAS, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Southern Plains Regional Office has approved the amendments to be voted on in a Bureau of Affairs conducted Secretarial Election to be held on May 14, 2005; and
WHEREAS, several mailings are necessary to comply with the regulations under which a Secretarial Election is conducted; and
WHEREAS, a budget is necessary to keep the costs of the Election separate from other budgets; and
WHEREAS, the Executive Committee approves the budget for the Secretarial Election in the form attached hereto.
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma hereby authorizing the creation of a budget for the Secretarial Election to be held on May 14, 2005 with respect to proposed amendments to the Tribe's Constitution.

CERTIFICATION
We, Kenneth Blanchard, Governor and Marian Reeves, Secretary of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, do hereby certify that this Resolution No. L-AS-2005-08_to be a true and exact copy as approved by the Executive Committee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma at a duly called meeting held on February 24, 2005, there being a quorum present, by vote of **2 in favor, 1 opposed, and 0 abstentions, as follows: Lt. Governor Daugherty: Yes, Secretary Reeves: Yes, Treasurer Ellis: Absent, Representative Nuckolls: No, Governor's vote, if required, N/A.**

REGULAR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
APRIL 13, 2005

E-AS-2005-24
A RESOLUTION DULY ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF INDIANS OF OKLAHOMA APPROVING AND ACCEPTING TAYLOR JORDAN BLANCHARD, MAKIAH LYNN TILLEY, JILIYAN JADE SPOON AND KANDICE NICOLE-GRACE FELTON AS ENROLLED MEMBERS OF THE ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA.

Taylor Jordan Blanchard	02/17/2005	1/2
Makiah Lynn Tilley	01/06/2005	1/4
Jiliyan Jade Spoon	12/09/2004	3/8
Kandice Nicole-Grace Felton	01/22/2005	7/16

CERTIFICATION
We, Kenneth Blanchard, Governor and Marian Reeves, Secretary of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, do hereby certify that this Resolution No. E-AS-2005-24 to be a true and exact copy as approved by the Executive Committee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma at a duly called Regular Meeting held on April 13, 2005, there being a quorum present by a vote of: **3 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions, as follows: Lt. Governor Daugherty: Yes; Secretary Reeves: Yes; Treasurer Ellis: Yes; Representative Nuckolls: Absent; Governor Blanchard's vote, if required: N/A.**

E-AS-2005-25
A RESOLUTION DULY ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ABSENTEE-SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA APPROVING THE RE-APPOINTMENT OF ANN ALEXANDER AS COMMISSIONER TO THE ABSENTEE-SHAWNEE HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR A THREE (3) YEAR TERM EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY AND EXPIRING OCTOBER 2008.

CERTIFICATION
We, Kenneth Blanchard, Governor and Marian Reeves, Secretary of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, do hereby certify that this Resolution No. E-AS-2005-25 to be a true and exact copy as approved by the Executive Committee of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma at a duly called meeting held on April 13, 2005, there being a quorum present, **by a vote of 2 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 abstentions, as follows: Lt. Governor: Yes, Secretary: Abstain, Treasurer: Yes, Representative: Absent, Governor's vote, if required, N/A.**

E-AS-2005-26
A RESOLUTION DULY ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ABSENTEE-SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA APPROVING THE RE-APPOINTMENT OF KAY WALLACE AS COMMISSIONER TO THE ABSENTEE-SHAWNEE HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR A THREE (3) YEAR TERM EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY AND EXPIRING OCTOBER 2008.

CERTIFICATION
We, Kenneth Blanchard, Governor and Marian Reeves, Secretary of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, do hereby certify that this Resolution No. E-AS-2005-26 to be a true and exact copy as approved by the Executive Committee of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma at a duly called meeting held on April 13, 2005, there being a quorum present, **by a vote of 3 in favor, 1 opposed, and 0 abstentions, as follows: Lt. Governor: Yes, Secretary: Yes, Treasurer: Yes, Representative: No, Governor's vote, if required, N/A.**

E-AS-2005-27
A RESOLUTION DULY ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ABSENTEE-SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA APPROVING THE RE-APPOINTMENT OF CAROL HANEY AS COMMISSIONER TO THE ABSENTEE-SHAWNEE HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR A THREE (3) YEAR TERM EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY AND EXPIRING OCTOBER 2008.

CERTIFICATION
We, Kenneth Blanchard, Governor and Marian Reeves, Secretary of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, do hereby certify that this Resolution No. E-AS-2005-27 to be a true and exact copy as approved by the Executive Committee of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma at a duly called meeting held on April 13, 2005, there being a quorum present, **by a vote of 2 in favor, 1 opposed, and 1 abstention, as follows: Lt. Governor: Yes, Secretary: Yes, Treasurer: Abstain, Representative: No, Governor's vote, if required, N/A.**

E-AS-2005-28
A RESOLUTION DULY ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ABSENTEE-SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA APPROVING THE RE-APPOINTMENT OF DARNELL DAY AS COMMISSIONER TO THE ABSENTEE-SHAWNEE HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR A THREE (3) YEAR TERM EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY AND EXPIRING JANUARY 2007.

CERTIFICATION

We, Kenneth Blanchard, Governor and Marian Reeves, Secretary of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, do hereby certify that this Resolution No. E-AS-2005-28 to be a true and exact copy as approved by the Executive Committee of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma at a duly called meeting held on April 13, 2005, there being a quorum present, **by a vote of 3 in favor, 1 opposed, and 0 abstentions, as follows: Lt. Governor: Yes, Secretary: Yes, Treasurer: Yes, Representative: No, Governor's vote, if required, N/A.**

E-AS-2005-29
A RESOLUTION DULY ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA RE-APPOINTING SHIRLEY HALEY AS A MEMBER OF THE ABSENTEE SHAWNEE EDUCATION COMMITTEE, FOR A THREE YEAR TERM, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY AND EXPIRING DECEMBER 2007.

CERTIFICATION

We, Kenneth Blanchard, Governor and Marian Reeves, Secretary of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, do hereby certify that this Resolution No. E-AS-2005-29 to be a true and exact copy as approved by the Executive Committee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma at a duly called Regular Meeting held on April 13, 2005, there being a quorum present, **by a vote of: 3 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions, as follows: Lt. Governor Daugherty: Yes, Secretary Reeves: Yes; Treasurer Ellis: Yes; and Representative Nuckolls: Abstain; Governor Blanchard's vote, if required:**

E-AS-2005-30
A RESOLUTION DULY ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ABSENTEE-SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA APPROVING THE RE-APPOINTMENT OF LINDA DAY FREDERICK AS BOARD MEMEBER TO THE ABSENTEE-SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (EDA) FOR A FIVE (5) YEAR TERM EFFECTIVE MARCH 2005 AND EXPIRING MARCH 2010.

CERTIFICATION

We, Kenneth Blanchard, Governor and Marian Reeves, Secretary of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, do hereby certify that this Resolution No. E-AS-2005- 30 to be a true and exact copy as approved by the Executive Committee of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma at a duly called meeting held on April 13, 2005, there being a quorum present, **by a vote of 3 in favor, 1 opposed, and 0 abstentions, as follows: Lt. Governor: Yes, Secretary: Yes, Treasurer: Yes, Representative: No, Governor's vote, if required, N/A.**

E-AS-2005-31
A RESOLUTION DULY ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ABSENTEE-SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA APPROVING THE RE-APPOINTMENT OF DUANE A. ELLIS AS BOARD MEMBER TO THE ABSENTEE-SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (EDA) FOR A FIVE (5) YEAR TERM EFFECTIVE JUNE 2005 AND EXPIRING JUNE 2010.

CERTIFICATION

We, Kenneth Blanchard, Governor and Marian Reeves, Secretary of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, do hereby certify that this Resolution No. E-AS-2005-31 to be a true and exact copy as approved by the Executive Committee of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma at a duly called meeting held on April 13, 2005, there being a quorum present, **by a vote of 3 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions, as follows: Lt. Governor: Yes, Secretary: Yes, Treasurer: Yes, Representative: No, Governor's vote, if required, N/A.**

E-AS-2005-32
A RESOLUTION DULY ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ABSENTEE-SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA APPROVING THE RE-APPOINTMENT OF ED ELEPHANT AS BOARD MEMBER TO THE ABSENTEE-SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (EDA) FOR A FIVE (5) YEAR TERM EFFECTIVE JUNE 2005 AND EXPIRING JUNE 2010.

CERTIFICATION

We, Kenneth Blanchard, Governor and Marian Reeves, Secretary of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, do hereby certify that this Resolution No. E-AS-2005-32 to be a true and exact copy as approved by the Executive Committee of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma at a duly called meeting held on April 13, 2005, there being a quorum present, **by a vote of 3 in favor, 1 opposed, and 0 abstentions, as follows: Lt. Governor: Yes, Secretary: Yes, Treasurer: Yes, Representative: No, Governor's vote, if required, N/A.**

LEGISLATIVE
APRIL 13, 2004

L-AS-2005-09
A RESOLUTION DULY ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA ADOPTING SECTIONS 40, 55 and 56 OF THE ABSENTEE SHAWNEE POLICE DEPARTMENT STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES; EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.

WHEREAS, from time to time it is necessary to update tribal policies and Sections 40, 55 and 56 are pertinent to the Standard Operating Procedures of the Absentee Shawnee Tribal Police Department, and
WHEREAS, Section 40 Use of Force - The purpose of this policy is to provide police officers with guidelines on the use of lethal, less-lethal and non-lethal force, and
WHEREAS, Section 55 Civil Process Service - The purpose of this policy is to insure accurate, expeditious, and judicious service and execution of matters relating to civil processes that are filed in the Absentee-Shawnee Trial Court, and
WHEREAS, Section 56 Services to the Tribe - It is the purpose of this policy to provide officers with guidance for performing specific services to the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe.

CERTIFICATION

We, Kenneth Blanchard, Governor and Marian Reeves, Secretary of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, do hereby certify that this Resolution No. L-AS-2005-09 to be a true and exact copy as approved by the Executive Committee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma at a duly called meeting held on April 13, 2005, there being a quorum present, by vote of **4 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions, as follows: Lt. Governor Daugherty: Yes, Secretary Reeves: Yes, Treasurer Ellis: Yes, Representative Nuckolls: Yes, Governor's vote, if required, N/A.**

L-AS-2005-10
A RESOLUTION DULY ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ABSENTEE-SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA APPROPRIATING ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS ($125,000.00) FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO FUND A BUDGET AND CREATE THE ABSENTEE SHAWNEE WASHER AND DRYER PROGRAM FOR TRIBAL MEMBERS WHO ARE 55 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER.

CERTIFICATION

We, Kenneth Blanchard, Governor and Marian Reeves, Secretary of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, do hereby certify that this Resolution No. L-AS-05-10 to be a true and exact copy as approved by the Executive Committee of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma at a duly called meeting held on February 9, 2005, there being a quorum present**, by a vote of 3 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 abstention, as follows: Lt. Governor: Yes, Secretary: Yes, Treasurer: Yes, Representative: Abstain, Governor's vote, if required, N/A.**

L-AS-2005-11
A RESOLUTION DULY ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA SUPPORTING THE ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE'S APPLICATION FOR FUNDING UNDER THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, OFFICE OF JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PROGRAM ENTITLED "TWO STARS TRIBAL YOUTH PROGRAM - MENTAL HEALTH INITIATIVE"

CERTIFICATION

We, Kenneth Blanchard, Governor and Marian Reeves, Secretary of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, do hereby certify that this Resolution No. L-AS-2005-11 to be a true and exact copy as approved by the Executive Committee of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma at a duly called meeting held on April 13, 2005, there being a quorum present, **by a vote of 3 in favor, 1 opposed, and 0 abstentions, as follows: Lt. Governor: Yes, Secretary: Yes, Treasurer: Yes, Representative: No, Governor's vote, if required, N/A.**

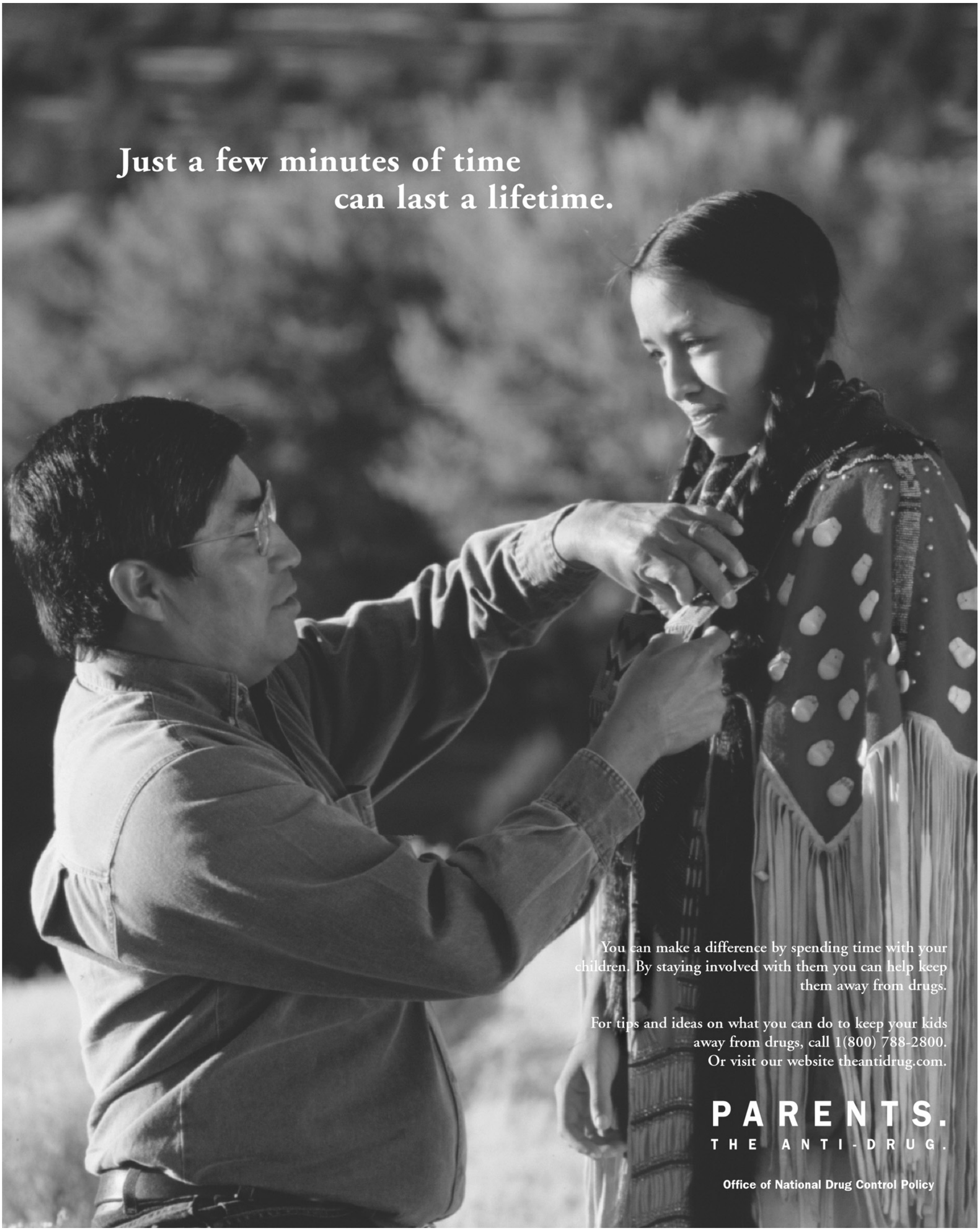
L-AS-2005-12
A RESOLUTION DULY ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ABSENTEE SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE APPLICATION TO THE ADMINISTRATION FOR NATIVE AMERICANS FOR A SEDS PROJECT WITH A FEDERAL REQUEST OF $306,200 WITH $90,000 PROVIDED AS A TRIBAL CASH MATCH AND $71,520 PROVIDED AS IN-KIND RESOURCES FOR A TOTAL PROJECT COST OF $467,720 FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEEDED TRIBAL TECHNICAL CAPACITY. THIS CAPACITY IS INTEGRAL TO THE CONTINUED AVAILABILITY OF SERVICES AND PROGRAMS TO THE TRIBAL COMMUNITY.

WHEREAS, the Administration for Native Americans has funding available under its Social and Economic Development Strategies (SEDS) mechanism to assist tribes in developing the necessary technical capacity to meet the needs of the tribal community and an application is authorized for submittal under this mechanism; and;
WHEREAS, it is certified that community involvement occurred as part of the project planning;

CERTIFICATION

We, Kenneth Blanchard, Governor and Marian Reeves, Secretary of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, do hereby certify that this Resolution No. L-AS-2005-12 to be a true and exact copy as approved by the Executive Committee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma at a duly called meeting held on April 13, 2005, there being a quorum present, by vote of 4 in **favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions, as follows: Lt. Governor Daugherty: Yes, Secretary Reeves: Yes, Treasurer Ellis: Yes, Representative Nuckolls: Yes, Governor vote, if required, N/A.**

See Resolutions on page 16 column three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MAY IS NATONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH

May is National Foster Care Month, a time to call attention to the needs of 523,000 American children and youth in foster care.

Foster Care Month also honors the 174,000 foster families across the nation for providing safe, stable and supportive homes for children and young people who are temporarily unable to live with their birth families. Foster Care Month encourages many more individuals, organizations and communities to come forward and help these young people in any way they can.

It is also a good time to ensure that Oklahoma doesn't join others across the country that are slashing budget items designed to protect and nurture children and young people in the child welfare system.

Please call or write your local elected officials to urge them to proclaim May as Foster Care Month and to continue to support these causes.

If you are interested in becoming a foster parent, please contact Jodi Owings, ICW/Foster Care worker, for a packet.

HERE ARE 3 WAYS YOU CAN CHANGE A LIFETIME:

1. Share your heart! Support children and their foster parents by donating goods, services or your time in ways as acting as a mentor or learning how policy, legislative and budget priorities affect children and youth in foster care.

2. Open your home! Become a foster or adoptive parent or a respite care provider, find out about affordable housing options for young people making the transition from foster care, or open your business or professional "home".

3. Give hope! Attend or organize a Foster Care Month acitivtiy such as a dinner, coffee fathering, picnic, auction, etc., to raise awareness and express appreciation for foster parents, social workers, and others who make a difference in the lives of children. Help a young person in foster care. Elderly people could help by teaching a young child about their culture and language that they are losing. There are many ways to give hope to children.

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe's Indian Child Welfare program and the Child Protective Service program will be joining forces with the Shawnee Area Native American Child Protection Team in honoring our Native foster families. If you would like to assist us in honoring our foster families by helping set up or donating items or coming by to say thank you to our foster families, please contact Jodi Owings at extension 189.

At the time that I was asked to write about why I became a foster parent. They also asked me to write about it from the beginning. I said I would do it and I thought it would be easy. That was one month ago and this is the first I've touched my keyboard.

The idea wasn't hard, but the circumstances are difficult to put into words. I have never thought about being a foster parent. The idea only crosses my mind when it comes in conversation or at classes. So when I was asked from the beginning I can only assume they mean since I started raising children that weren't born in to the family. Well there they have me again, because a couple of our foster children were born into the family, extended family.

I do not remember when we began because that has not been too important. All I remember thinking was why did I do this, as the little old lady (caseworker) walked up to my door with a briefcase in one hand. She held a folder in the other, presumably because the briefcase was too full. We had our initial home visit she loaded us up with homework and we loaded her up with information. There were a few other wrinkles to iron out then we were done. It wasn't as bad as I had thought it would be. A few weeks later we had our first addition. Shortly after we had another. The children weren't hell spawn but they weren't angels either they just needed to be surrounded with a family. Each child has become part of our family whether they have gone home or they call us their home.

…a letter from a tribal foster home
written on April 21, 2005

The Absentee Shawnee Tribe along with Sac& Fox, Citizen Potwatomi Nation, and Seminole Nation put on a foster parent training. During that training we asked the foster parents to choose a favorite proverb and describe how it can be applied to children in foster care. This is what our foster parent wrote:

The apple doesn't fall far from the tree…
The apple may fall from the tree but whether it is left to rot, picked up to eat or used for seeds to grow another apple tree is another part of the proverb which is not complete. Change and break the cycle!

Resolutions continued from page 14

LEGISLATIVE
APRIL 14, 2005

L-AS-2005-13
A RESOLUTION DULY ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ABSENTEE-SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA LOWERING THE AGE REQUIREMENT FOR TRIBAL MEMBERS FROM 55 YEARS TO 50 YEARS AND AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. L-AS-2004-24, L-AS-2004-54 AND L-AS-2005-10 TO QUALIFY FOR THE STORM SHELTER PROGRAM, KITCHEN APPLIANCE PROGRAM, AND THE WASHER AND DRYER PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe agrees it is in the best interest of the tribe to promote the health and safety of the tribal members of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe who are 50 years of age and over, own their own homes and reside anywhere in the state of Oklahoma, and
WHEREAS, the tribe has had recognized a need for the elderly members of the tribe for help with acquiring a storm cellar, kitchen appliances, and a washer and dryer and
WHEREAS, the Executive Committee acknowledges it is in the best interest of the tribe to lower the age requirement from 55 years to 50 years and amend resolution numbers L-AS-2004-24, L-AS-2004-54 and L-AS-2005-10

CERTIFICATION

We, Kenneth Blanchard, Governor and Marian Reeves, Secretary of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, do hereby certify that this Resolution No. L-AS-05-13 to be a true and exact copy as approved by the Executive Committee of the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma at a duly called meeting held on April 14, 2005, there being a quorum present**, by a vote of 3 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions, as follows: Lt. Governor: Yes, Secretary: Yes, Treasurer: Yes, Representative: Absent, Governor's vote, if required, N/A.**

In a Foster Child's Eyes about his foster dad:

What My Father means to me:

A father is a person who takes care of a younger person. Do you have a dad? Do you love your dad? Is he nice or is he mean? How important is a dad to you?

I like my father very much. He's a funny person. He likes to fix up some cars. Plus he likes to play playstation 2. He also likes to tell real funny jokes. My dad is very strict too. He doesn't like it when we fight. He doesn't like it when we call each other names. He doesn't like it when we say the word "hate".

To me, I think everyone needs a father. If not a father, at least a father figure. Just give them a person to model after. I know I have a dad to look up to. Do you have one?

Written by: 11 year old Native American foster child